

NEW ENGLAND

B-WET BAY WATERSHED EDUCATION & TRAINING PROGRAM



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) fosters environmental and science literacy through hands-on watershed education experiences throughout New England. B-WET provides environmental education grants for grades K through 12 and teacher training.

New England B-WET focuses on the priorities and challenges facing New England watersheds and helps students and teachers use the tools of science to understand their local watershed system and its benefits.

By using the outdoors as a learning experience, students become more interested in science, technology, engineering and math. And, by focusing on watersheds where they live, students and teachers can become knowledgeable stewards of their local environment. In 2008, B-WET awarded \$1,142,356 to support watershed-based education in New England.

In addition to prioritizing meaningful watershed educational experiences to students and professional development in environmental education to teachers, New England B-WET emphasizes regional challenges such as understanding the interconnectedness of systems that support life, energy needs and the marine environment, water resources and the effects climate change may have on watersheds in the region.

New England B-WET targets the States of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. To be eligible, applicants must work with an audience in the targeted geography, but do not need to be from one of these states. K-12 public and independent schools and school systems, institutions of higher education, community-based and nonprofit organizations, state or local government agencies, interstate agencies, and Indian tribal governments may apply.

Although B-WET has been around for a while, New England B-WET is a new addition to the program. The host for this program is the Northeast Regional Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester, MA. Our website is under construction, but please check

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/> in the near future for news and opportunities in New England. New England B-WET expects to announce a funding opportunity for projects to be conducted in 2010. Look for this announcement in the summer of 2009.

For more info about New England please contact Kathi Rodrigues, Kathi.Rodrigues@noaa.gov (978-281-9324), and check our website at **<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/BWET/>**

For information about the National B-WET program, please visit: **<http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/BWET/>**

